

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING PRIDE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2016

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, each June, our nation celebrates the extraordinary achievements of the LGBT community and their allies.

Thanks to the tireless activism of individuals and groups fighting for LGBT rights, we can all take pride in our nation's progress toward full LGBT equality. Just one year ago, the Supreme Court joined a growing number of Americans who recognize that love is love. Now millions have the security of knowing their rights and dignity are recognized and affirmed by our federal government.

There has never been a better time to rejoice in these hard fought victories. However, there is still work to be done.

Congress must pass the Equality Act to ensure that LGBT individuals are protected from discrimination. And we must take strong action to protect transgender Americans from an epidemic of violence, particularly transgender women of color.

All people deserve to live without fear and with dignity. We must continue the march towards LGBT equality in the United States and across the world.

I am honored to join with my colleagues in the Congressional LGBT Equality Caucus and all Americans in celebrating PRIDE month. I am confident that if we stand united, we will win the fight for equality and justice.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF FARM CREDIT

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, in rural communities, like those in the Sixth Congressional District of Virginia, the Farm Credit provides a variety of financial services to folks in their own communities. Since 1916, the Farm Credit System has served communities throughout the United States, playing an integral role in helping our country remain the world's greatest producer of food and fiber products while preserving our agricultural heritage.

Agriculture is by far the largest industry in the Commonwealth of Virginia, supplying nearly 311,000 jobs and making an economic impact of \$52 billion annually. The Farm Credit of the Virginias plays an important part in ensuring this industry continues to grow by pro-

viding more than \$1.5 billion in financing to rural homeowners, farmers, and landowners in 96 counties in Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland. It has been a pleasure working with this group over the years.

Farm Credit has a decidedly local feel, and it is clear that the representatives know and understand the communities they are serving. As a cooperative, members of the Farm Credit are also the customers and borrowers. They are uniquely invested in ensuring Farm Credit is best serving its borrowers.

Whether a farmer is looking to purchase a new piece of equipment, a family is buying a new home, or a new agritourism business is trying to find the capital to take root, the Farm Credit has been there every step of the way, helping families live out the American dream. Thank you to Farm Credit organizations in Virginia and across the country for their hard work on behalf of America's rural communities. Congratulations to the Farm Credit on 100 years of promoting American agriculture.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF FARM CREDIT

SPEECH OF

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, as we near its 100th anniversary, I rise today to commend the cooperative owners and the employees of the Farm Credit System for their continuing service in meeting the credit and financial-services needs of rural communities and agriculture.

I was pleased to cosponsor House Resolution 591, commending the cooperative owners and employees of the Farm Credit System for 100 years of service. The legislation was introduced by House Agriculture Committee Chairman MIKE CONAWAY, Ranking Member COLLIN PETERSON, as well as the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee for Commodity Exchanges, Energy & Credit, Chairman AUSTIN SCOTT and Ranking Member DAVID SCOTT.

The Farm Credit System plays a vital role in the national success of agriculture and the economic vibrancy of rural communities throughout all 50 States and Puerto Rico, providing more than \$237 billion in loans to more than 500,000 customers. For example, in my home state of Mississippi, Farm Credit serves 6,379 borrower-customers, providing \$1.2 billion in credit.

Farm Credit's mission also extends to supporting rural communities by financing vital infrastructure, bringing clean water to rural communities, providing reliable energy to farms and rural towns, and offering modern high-speed telecommunications that connect rural America to the rest of the world.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF FARM CREDIT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANDY HARRIS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100 year anniversary of the establishment of the Farm Credit System. I was pleased to cosponsor House Resolution 591, commending the cooperative owners and employees of the Farm Credit System for 100 years of service.

The Farm Credit System was established by Congress through the Federal Farm Loan Act of 1916, signed into law on July 17, 1916, by President Woodrow Wilson, making 2016 the centennial anniversary of the founding of the cooperatively owned and operated Farm Credit System. Congress intended the Farm Credit System be designed as a permanent means to support the well-being and prosperity of the Nation's rural communities and agricultural producers of all types and sizes. It was designed as a network of cooperatives, independently owned and controlled by its borrowers, and meant to be responsive to individual needs for credit and financial services.

Since its inception the Farm Credit system has, and continues to, continually adapt in order to meet the changing needs of rural communities and agriculture. Today, the Farm Credit System plays a vital role in the success of the United States agricultural sector and the economic vibrancy of rural communities throughout all 50 States and Puerto Rico. The system provides more than \$237 billion in loans to more than 500,000 customers across the nation. In Maryland, Farm Credit serves nearly 5000 borrower-owners representing over \$1.3 billion in loan volume. In my district alone, MidAtlantic Farm Credit serves over 2000 borrower-owners, representing over \$633 million in loan volume.

The Farm Credit System actively supports the next generation of agricultural producers by annually providing billions of dollars in loans to young and beginning farmers and ranchers and through its ongoing financial support for organizations like 4-H and Future Farmers of America. In Maryland, Farm Credit serves over 3200 young/beginning/small farmers representing over \$648 million in loan volume.

For all these reasons, Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today in celebration of the 100th anniversary or the establishment of the modern American Farm Credit System.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.